

THE STATE JOURNAL is "on the square" typographically, too, and we hope you'll admit it is an "all around" newspaper.

HOME EDITION

DU PONT POWDER MILLS WRECKED AFTER WARNING

NOTICES SAID TO HAVE TOLD OF DEATH PLOT

Placards on Trees Recall Horror of Lusitania Tragedy.

Foreigners Employed in Factory at Own Peril.

THIRTY MEN ARE KNOWN DEAD

Not One Left in Wrecked Building to Tell Story.

Company Officials, Professing Ignorance, Start Investigation.

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 1.—There are persons bold enough to say that the explosion in the Du Pont powder mill in Upper Hadley yards yesterday was plotted and carried out by German agents. Warning signs were displayed, it is reported.

Although a searching investigation into the cause of the disaster was started by officials of the Du Pont Powder company, immediately after the explosion, which caused the death of thirty workmen and the serious injury of six others, nothing of a tangible nature had been discovered early today.

Every employee who was near the building that was destroyed was put through a thorough examination, but without throwing any light on the mystery. Not one of the twenty-six men who were in the Pellet packing house escaped and there now is only a big hole in the ground where the building stood. The investigators admit there is but little possibility of the responsibility being placed on any one.

Charles B. Landis, an official of the Du Pont company, gave out a statement today in which he said every precaution had been taken to protect the Du Pont plants, and that these precautions had been redoubled with the recent war scare.

"Our polling system," he added, "is under the direction of Major Mitchell, chief of police of Washington, and he is in charge of the company's secret service."

Every means will be exhausted in an attempt to solve and explain this explosion, but at present we are without a single thread on which to hang our hopes that its origin ever will be ascertained. The whole thing is an absolute mystery.

Reports that notices had been found nailed to trees and fences leading to the Du Pont plants at Upper Hadley, and at Carney's point warning employees of Teutonic origin that they were imperiling their lives by continuing to work at either place, were receiving the attention of the big force of detectives working on the case today.

The notices are said to have read: "Americans who lost their lives in the sinking of the Lusitania did so after due warning. All men of Teutonic origin are hereby warned that if they continue in the employment of the Du Pont powder company they will do so at their peril and will be taking their lives in their hands."

KINGSWAY GOES DOWN

British Steamer Sunk and Five of Crew Are Missing; Twenty-Two Safely Land.

London, Dec. 1.—The British steamship Kingsway has been sunk. Her captain and 21 members of the crew have been landed.

Five others are missing.

There are three British steamships Kingsway of 3,447, 247 and 211 tons gross respectively.

The first of these is the only one whose movements recently have been recorded and presumably in the vessel which has been sunk. She was 344 feet long, was built in Sunderland in 1907 and was owned in Bristol.

Franz Josef's Ministers Are Actually Out

Amsterdam, Dec. 1.—Reports that several members of the Austrian cabinet have resigned are confirmed by an autograph letter from Emperor Francis Joseph, published in the Wiener Zeitung of Vienna.

The emperor has accepted the resignations of Dr. Karl Heindl, D'Uytsch, minister of the interior; Dr. Rudolf Schuster von Bonhoff, minister of commerce; and Baron Enver von Malinowski, minister of finance.

Acceptance of these resignations is qualified with the proviso that the service of the retiring ministers are to be available, if required.

Dr. Heindl and Baron Enver have been appointed members of the upper house, while the rank of Freiherr has been conferred on Dr. Schuster.

Prince Hohenlohe, Schillingfuerst, president of the supreme court of appeals, has been appointed minister of the interior; Ritter von Loh, governor of the postal savings bank, minister of finance; and Herr von Spitzmuller, director of the Kredit-Anstalt, minister of commerce.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 1, 1915—TWELVE PAGES

THIS EDITION 2 CENTS

ENLARGED.

Anticipating a better city and better times, a greater Topeka and greater business, the State Journal gives evidence of the faith within it, in today taking another step forward, by widening each of its pages from seven columns to eight columns; that is, in its minimum issue of ten pages, thereby increasing its size ten columns a day; two-thirds of which will be reading matter in the line of additional news, pictures and cartoons.

For some weeks this paper has been unable to get within its 7-column pages the local, telegraph and pictured events it has desired to present.

To take our readers into its confidence, this change means an added daily expenditure of ten pages, paper and postage alone of fourteen dollars. It is hoped that attractive new advertising and subscriptions will at least offset this expense.

The State Journal is ambitious to give more effective service to its readers, and thereby to its advertisers, and more fully to meet all demands upon it, by increased facilities. It believes in growth and progress, even if they do not always bring financial benefits.

The 8-column page has been adopted by those great papers, the New York Times, the Chicago Tribune, the Chicago News, the Des Moines Capital, the Denver News and other representative, enterprising dailies.

This newspaper is not yet as profitable as a good farm mortgage, or as it was in its old building, but it is more useful than before, gives better service to the public, more comfort, more satisfactory and more agreeable, safe quarters to its workers, and is housed in a creditable fire-proof building and possesses an equipment of the best. It is continually spending the money it makes to these ends, confident that virtue and faith and enterprise have their rewards, and that in time the financial investment will be worth while and always enable the State Journal to go constantly forward to better things for its readers and advertisers and for those who conduct it.

The following telegram was received this afternoon from Frank P. MacLennan, editor and proprietor of the State Journal, who is in Portland, Oregon.

"Congratulations to you all on the successful launching of the new and greater State Journal. May its wider pages give breadth to its vision and interpretation of the news as well as to its scope and opportunity for increasing the presentation of it in faithful enlightening and entertaining manner."

FRANK P. MACLENNAN.

JANE ADDAMS STRICKEN

Settlement Worker and Peace Advocate Is Taken to Hospital Suffering From Fever.

Chicago, Dec. 1.—The condition of Miss Jane Addams, settlement worker and peace advocate who was taken to a hospital yesterday suffering from a severe attack of fever, was reported as unchanged today.

King George Able to Leave Palace.

London, Dec. 1.—For the first time since his return to England after his accident in France, King George today left the palace and visited Queen Alice and Alexandra on the occasion of her birthday.

New York More Than 5 Million.

New York, Dec. 1.—A police census of the city, just completed, shows that the greater city has 5,253,883 inhabitants in its five boroughs.

WAR NEWS BOILED DOWN FOR THE RUSHED READER

Capture of 15,000 Serbian by the Bulgarians when they took Priestovo, is announced by Berlin today. A Bulgarian statement places the number of prisoners at 16,000.

According to the Sofia war office Bulgarian troops are operating successfully against the allied troops in the Balkans.

Closely following the visit of Emperor William to Vienna comes the news that three members of the Austrian cabinet have resigned, the withdrawing members being the ministers of the interior, commerce and justice.

The resignations and the German emperor's visit have given rise to the important question as to the whether the happenings have any connection with rumored peace moves by Austria or the British, rumors that are being spread by the Austrians from a view to the maintenance of Rumanian neutrality.

When the entire allied mass concentrated five hundred thousand men in the Balkans Rumania will deliver an ultimatum to Austria, according to a report current in Bucharest.

Rome claims further progress for Italian arms. Their desperate struggle for Gorizia. The current official statement from Vienna admits a slight withdrawal by the Austrians from a small portion of the Gorizia front.

HIGH LIGHTS IN EUROPE'S WAR ONE YEAR AGO TODAY

Austrians occupied Belgrade, the former capital of Serbia.

Serbia was reported seeking aid from Russia.

Heavy fighting was resumed in Flanders.

FLOCK TO TOPEKA

Officials From Every County in Kansas in Topeka.

Here to Attend the Thirty-Second Annual Convention.

WELCOMED BY MAYOR HOUSE

Joint Sessions Held in Representative Hall.

Clerks at Preliminary Meeting Addressed by Gov. Capper.

County officials from every county in the state convened here today in the thirty-second annual convention of county clerks, county commissioners, and registers of deeds.

The registration of this morning reached the 250 mark.

An evidence of the progressive nature which is predominating the convention this year the three associations in joint session this morning endorsed the first number of the "Kansas Official," a monthly publication to be put out by O. K. Swayze, county clerk of Shawnee county.

The morning session of the convention was taken up with preliminary business. At 11 o'clock Mayor J. E. House gave the address of welcome at the joint session in representative hall.

Q. A. Burns, of Ellsworth, the "Uncle Sam" of the convention, responded to the address of welcome.

(Continued on Page Two.)

PRICE OF MEAT SLIPS

Decrease of 7.3 Per Cent Shown in Department of Agriculture Report for Last Month.

Washington, Dec. 1.—The average of prices of meat paid to producers decreased 7.3 per cent from October 15 to Nov. 15, the department of agriculture announced. On the last five years the price declined in like period 2.8 per cent.

The index figure of prices for these meat animals was about five per cent lower than a year ago, seven per cent lower than two years ago, the same as three years ago and 18.6 per cent higher than four years ago.

Hogs averaged \$6.35 per 100 pounds, on Nov. 15. That is 9.3 per cent lower than a year ago; beef cattle, \$5.85 or 2.8 per cent lower; veal calves, \$7.69, or 1.1 per cent lower; sheep, \$5.18, or 10.7 per cent higher; and chickens \$11.50 per 100 pounds, or 3.6 per cent higher.

END FREIGHT TROUBLE

Committee of Railroad Officials Meets to Adopt Measures to Prevent Further Terminal Congestion.

New York, Dec. 1.—Remedies for the congestion of freights at New York and other great cities are sought by a committee of railroad operating officials which met at the offices of the Trunk Line association here today.

The committee will discuss how to avoid the further establishment of embargoes on export freight already applied in part by the Pennsylvania, Lackawanna and Baltimore and Ohio railroads.

The committee will make to maintain a more regular movement of export traffic, and the co-operation of shippers and steamship companies will be enlisted to expedite freight movement and prevent an increase of the congestion.

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"SHE IS MY WIFE"

Topeka Husband's Manly Answer in Assault Charges.

Mrs. H. C. Staggs Files Complaint With Attorney.

HE BLAMES JOHN BARLEYCORN

But Will Say Nothing Against Woman He Married.

She Exhibits Scars Resulting From Family Quarrels.

On warrant charging him with assault on his wife, Margaret Staggs, with intent to kill, H. C. Staggs, 412 West Seventh street, a stocks and bonds salesman, was arrested today by Charles Hixson, deputy sheriff, and Will Anderson of the county attorney's office.

Alleged domestic troubles of the Staggs came to a head today when Mrs. Staggs appeared in the county attorney's office and told a story wherein sensational charges were made against her husband.

A half hour after the warrant was issued Staggs was apprehended. In the county attorney's office he made partial denial of the charges made against him, and begged for a chance to get out of the trouble. He laid his downfall on the doorstep of John Barleycorn, admitted that he was a heavy drinker and claimed that he and his wife never had trouble except when he was imbibing too much Topeka liquor.

According to information in the hands of the county attorney, trouble between Staggs and his wife occurred Sunday evening when he came home off the road. Staggs had been drinking, it is alleged, and his wife says he kicked her. She showed the county attorney a scar on one of her arms which she claimed was made by her husband. She said she had other scars on her body. She is an attractive young woman.

Two Sides to It.

When Staggs was brought to the county attorney's office it developed that the story told by the Staggs claimed that his wife nagged him—and then seemed to catch him self when he began telling his story.

"No," he said, "I will not say anything against her—she is my wife."

He said he had attempted to make up this afternoon after the alleged trouble Sunday evening. He showed the county attorney a letter which he said he sent to his wife this morning only to have it returned by someone with the message that his wife was in the hospital. In the letter the wife was "modestly" in terms.

Although he is a strongly built man, Staggs was so nervous in the county attorney's office that he could hardly stand. Staggs promised the county attorney this morning that if the complaint should be dismissed he would quit drinking and try to make up with his wife.

Atchison as Peace Maker.

As Mrs. Staggs is the complaining witness in this case, W. E. Atchison, county attorney, promised the man that he would try to get in touch with Mrs. Staggs this afternoon and try to settle the matter.

Staggs is a high-salaried salesman, according to his wife.

Staggs does not believe that his wife would make such charges against me of her own free will," said Staggs this morning. He hinted that some one else was behind the affair. "I have no charges to make against her—she is my wife."

Following the Staggs' alleged domestic troubles Sunday evening Staggs was taken in custody by the police and released under \$10 bond.

Staggs denied that he had been charged with anything so serious as that charged in the warrant.

UNCLE JOE NEAR DEATH

Congressman Cannon Nearly Run Down by Big Automobile in Chicago Streets.

Chicago, Dec. 1.—Joseph G. Cannon, en route to Washington to resume his seat in the national house, narrowly escaped death or serious injury here today, according to employees of the Union League club.

Mr. Cannon had left the club and was driving across Jackson boulevard, disregarding Chicago's traffic regulations, when a shout of warning from Dennis J. O'Neil, doorman at the club, halted him. A big limousine bore down on the congressman while he stood irresolute. The chauffeur threw on his brakes and swerved his car across the path of opposite bound traffic.

He missed another automobile and Mr. Cannon by inches.

WHITLOCK SEES WILSON

Following to Belgium Tells President Wilson of Miss Cavell's Execution.

Washington, Dec. 1.—Brand Whitlock, American minister to Belgium, who returned here to regain his health, had a long conference with President Wilson today regarding conditions in the war zone, the work of the Belgian relief commission and the case of Miss Edith Cavell, the British nurse executed by the Germans over the protest of Mr. Whitlock.

After the conference Mr. Whitlock returned to the European situation in any way.

Minister Whitlock, after a visit to his home in Toledo, O., will sail again for his post December 23.

River Boosters Meet.

Quincy, Ill., Dec. 1.—To plan the development of Mississippi river traffic, delegates from points along the stream met here today. A deeper channel and docks are wanted.

CARNEGIE HAS ONLY 20 MILLION LEFT; HE HAS ALREADY GIVEN AWAY \$350,000,000



Andrew Carnegie on his 80th birthday.

New York, Dec. 1.—Andrew Carnegie has a fortune today of \$20,000,000. Of the vast wealth which the ironmaster possessed when he started giving away his fortune twenty years ago, in conformity with his principle of being poor, that is all he has left.

He now is far down on the list of American millionaires.

Mr. Carnegie has given away about \$350,000,000. If interest were to be included on some of the funds he has set aside the total would reach nearly \$400,000,000. This sum he has given away in pursuance of his belief that the man who dies possessed of great wealth and who devotes no part of it to the public's use has failed in life.

Last of Fortune to Charity.

Mr. Carnegie has left he has devoted in his will almost entirely to charity. Little will go to his family. Thus, not mean, as this close friend of Mr. Carnegie explained, that the latter believes he has fulfilled his purpose. It was in this connection that his friend made known the fact that Mr. Carnegie's will devotes almost his entire remaining wealth to charity.

TOLL OF THE HUNT ASOUTH HOPEFUL

Fifty-Nine Killed and Sixty Premier's Confidence Voiced by Big Labor Conference.

Hurt During Season.

Wage Earners Better Off Than Shot by Hunters.

When War Began.

Chicago, Dec. 1.—Fifty-nine persons killed and sixty-six injured in the hunting toll in sixteen states for the season which ended yesterday according to statistics available here today. Last season eleven persons were killed and 142 wounded. Dragging shotguns through fences and other accidental discharge of guns again claimed a majority of the victims in the various states. A score of persons hunting deer were shot by fellow hunters who mistook them for game.

Michigan leads in the number of killed with fourteen; Illinois comes next with twelve deaths; in Wisconsin, nine hunters were reported killed.

KEEPIN GOOD CONDITION

Beginning Today Kansas Railroads Must Maintain Their Highway Crossings.

Beginning today, railroads operating in Kansas must keep the highway crossings in good condition. A new state law became operative this morning and compels railroads to pay strict attention to the condition of their crossings over public highways.

The measure was passed by the 1915 legislature. It law provides for grade crossings not exceeding seven and a half per cent. For each day a crossing is not kept in repair, the railroad is subject to a fine of five dollars.

FIRST OF YOST FOOTBALL ARTICLES APPEARS TODAY

On the sporting page of today's enlarged State Journal will be found Coach Fielding H. Yost's all-American football eleven for the season just closed. Coach Yost, who is one of the most widely known football men, also gives the reason he picked each member for the place and tells in what particular features of the game each man excels. If you read "football dope" you will enjoy this article.

Tomorrow Mr. Yost will tell why he picked each member of his successful football team, and Friday he will have an interesting story on the coaches who have made football history in the past 20 years. Clip these articles and paste them in your sport scrap book.

WAR MUNITIONS FIRST

The Atlantic Seaboard Congestion Will Not Interfere With Shipments to Europe.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Dec. 1.—Important exporting interests here today said the freight congestion at Atlantic seaboard terminals would not seriously affect the transportation of war munitions and other materials made for European government in necessary industries.

Shipments to France and Great Britain are being made in the bottoms of the coastwise steamers, while Great Britain is taking care of all government freight for Russia, including the thousands of steel cars being made in the Pittsburgh district.

WHAT do you think of the new "State Journal Enlarged"? It's more "square" to run her, but she's worth it!

KANSAS WILL HAVE A REAL CHRISTMAS

No Greater Prosperity Has Ever Prevailed in State.

Two Years of Bumper Crops Have Swelled the Profits.

WAR PRICES ADD 90 MILLION

Banks Full of Money and Bills Full of Wheat.

Boom Day Records Passed in the Oil Districts.

Kansas will this year show the world what a real Christmas means according to the opinions of prominent merchants and persons in touch with financial conditions in the state. Except in localities where profits have come through the manufacture of munitions of war, no greater prosperity has visited a community in the last two years through the production of bumper crops. War prices have meant an added income of 90 million dollars' profit to Kansas. Some of it will go to the Christmas fund for the children.

Reports from almost every section of Kansas during the last ten days have indicated an unusually heavy Christmas trade. In almost every community added profits have been collected during the year as a result of bumper crops. The world's price for wheat has risen to 1.10 a bushel in the last few months heavy slumps in the live stock markets—due, it has been

HOUSER SAYS INNOCENT

Alleged Slayer and Crook Cross Examine State's Witnesses—Is Not Worried by Court Procedure.

Omaha, Dec. 1.—Arthur Houser, charged with the murder of W. H. Smith when attempting to head him up, pleaded not guilty at his preliminary hearing today, and was held without bail. The hearing occupied only fifteen minutes.

Houser cross-examined the three witnesses introduced by the state, and did not at all worried by the proceedings.

NO BOOZE CIRCULARS

Anti-Liquor Act Law of West Virginia Is Upheld by the Supreme Court.

Charleston, W. Va., Dec. 1.—The supreme court today declared unconstitutional that section of the Virginia liquor law which prohibits liquor dealers outside the state from diverting their wares to West Virginia by circular letters and order blanks.

The decision came when the court confirmed a decision of the circuit court of Harris county.

U. S. WANTS TO KNOW

Federal Government Will Protest If Britain Tries to Raise Two Ships Without Court Action.

Washington, Dec. 1.—The state department has instructed Ambassador Page at London to inquire of British government whether two vessels of the American Transoceanic company seized while flying the American flag were to be requisitioned without the approval of a prize court proceedings.

The ambassador was directed to file a vigorous protest against such a measure should he receive an affirmative answer.

Rebel Chief Disappears As Hope Dies

Nogales, Ariz., Dec. 1.—Elk forces defeated and scattered by the Carranza army of General Manuel Dieguez at Hermosillo, Francisco Villa, the insurgent leader, has disappeared, according to reports received here by General Alvaro Obregon, the Carranza military chief.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 1.—Under an order of seizing tranquility, the convention or Villa government organization south of Juarez, its sole port of entry, apparently is disappearing according to advice received here. Close functioning of the guerrillas is being approached of foreign owned industries as indications of disintegration.

Villa to Raid U. S. Territory?

Washington, Dec. 1.—Attributing his present situation to the failure of the United States government to support him, General Villa is planning raids on American territory along the border, according to information which has reached the American government.

Funston, commanding the American border guard, in reporting this to the war department, said he believed General Villa actually contemplated any such raid.

Funston said he was transmitting reports merely to show what Villa was said to be telling his followers.